

# Washington State COLLABORATIVE: THE FACTS

## What is the Washington State Collaborative (WSC) and how does it work?

For more information on the BTS Model, visit: [www.ihl.org/newsandpublications/whitepapers/BTS.asp](http://www.ihl.org/newsandpublications/whitepapers/BTS.asp)

The Washington State Collaborative is a systematic, evidence-based approach to redesigning and improving healthcare delivery. It is based on the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's Breakthrough Series (BTS) model. Participants will:

- Choose a disease track — diabetes or cardiovascular disease
- Participate in three learning sessions and an outcomes congress
- Rapidly test and measure changes on a small scale, then identify and implement those strategies that improve outcomes

More than 75 teams from across the state have participated in prior WSC events. This is the fourth Collaborative co-sponsored by Qualis Health and the Washington State Department of Health.

## How will our practice benefit?

Through participation in WSC, you will:

- Increase potential revenues from health plans
- Demonstrate leadership in your community of practice
- Develop (and potentially market) your own chronic disease management program
- Increase your staff's job satisfaction
- Learn and implement a proven quality improvement method
- Share experiences, materials, and lessons learned with peers
- Access local experts in cardiovascular disease and diabetes management
- Streamline clinical functions

## How will our patients benefit?

Previous WSC participants reported the following changes in their patients:

- Improved glucose control
- Improved blood pressure control
- Increased goal setting and self-management
- Greater satisfaction with, and appreciation for, clinical staff

## How do we participate?

**Get internal buy-in.** It is crucial to have upfront support from your organization's management and clinical staff.

**Form a team.** A team consists of three to six people, including senior management.

### **Commit to the following:**

- Complete preparatory work (i.e., setting up a registry) prior to the first learning session
- Participate in three two-day learning sessions held in Seattle
- Attend monthly teleconferences to consult with WSC leadership
- Use an e-mail list to share success stories, ask questions, and receive updated information
- Communicate your progress through monthly reports
- Present final results at the two-day Outcomes Congress held in Seattle
- Maintain your improved system in the future
- Extend and maintain your improvements throughout your system

## What is the cost?

There is a fee of \$200 per team member for each learning session and for the outcomes congress. Travel expenses are not included in this fee.

## To enroll, or for further information...

E-mail: [WSC@qualishealth.org](mailto:WSC@qualishealth.org)

Phone: Kathleen Clark at (360) 236-3608

Helan Lee at (800) 949-7536, ext. 2341

Web: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/wsc/default.htm>

## Mark your calendar

<b>Registration Deadline</b>	<b>May 3, 2004</b>
<b>Learning Session 1</b>	<b>June 28-29, 2004</b>
<b>Learning Session 2</b>	<b>September 20-21, 2004</b>
<b>Learning Session 3</b>	<b>January 10-11, 2005</b>
<b>Outcomes Congress</b>	<b>June 27-28, 2005</b>